

# Third Annual MHSA Boot Camp



## 2020 MHSA Boot Camp Virtual Convenings

### PROGRAM

SESSION 1: Wednesday, August 5, 2020

**SESSION 2: Wednesday, August 19, 2020**

SESSION 3: Wednesday, September 2, 2020

SESSION 4: Wednesday, September 16, 2020

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## Wednesday, August 19, 2020

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9:00 am – 9:15 am **OPENING REMARKS**

9:15 am – 10:15 am **DHCS MHSA PROGRAM REVIEW: LESSONS FROM THE FIELD**

**David Schoelen, LCSW**, MHSA Administrator, Riverside University Health System - Behavioral Health

**Melissa Ladrech, LMFT, CHC**, Sonoma County Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Coordinator & Workforce, Education, and Training (WET) Coordinator

**Priya Kannall**, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Coordinator, Deputy Privacy Officer, Nevada County Behavioral Health Department

The panel will provide information and share experiences based on recent MHSA Triennial Reviews conducted by DHCS, including a perspective on virtual reviews in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. Coordinators will describe their planning process, share tips, discuss key focus areas, and review findings and resulting changes implemented.

10:15 am – 10:30 am **BREAK**

10:30 am – 11:15 am **PEER SUPPORT: BUILDING EFFECTIVE PEER-BASED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES USING MHSA FUNDING**

**Tracey Helton Mitchell, MPA, HPC III**, MHSA Program Manager, San Francisco Behavioral Health System

**Gamaliel Polanco, LCSW**, Wellness Center Manager, Tri-City Mental Health

Creating Meaningful Roles for Peers in Recovery: Tracey Helton Mitchell, MPA, will discuss the challenges and successes of peer-based programs in the San Francisco Behavioral Health System. MHSA funding promised the “transformation” of the mental health system. Yet, many of the key stakeholders were resistant to working side-by-side with peers. The presentation will outline the history of MHSA programs and what is next in the era of COVID-19.

Gamaliel Polanco will present on Tri-City Mental Health Joint Powers Authority’s Wellness and Recovery Center. The center has been operating since 2010 and has employed peers since its inception. The staff is made up of all practice levels, including volunteers, peers, mental health workers, case managers, MSW interns, and clinicians, with 75% self-identifying as persons with lived experience.

11:15 am – 11:30 am **BREAK**

## Wednesday, August 19, 2020, continued

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11:30 am – 12:00 pm **CRISIS STABILIZATION: ENHANCING THE CRISIS CARE CONTINUUM THROUGH MHSa FUNDING**

**Jennifer Reiman, LCSW**, Sacramento County Mental Health Program Coordinator, Division of Behavioral Health Services

The Mental Health Program Coordinator of Sacramento County will provide a brief overview of the Mobile Crisis Support Team including the partnership between county staff, law enforcement and contracted provider, outcome data, and success stories.

12:00 pm – 12:15 pm **BREAK**

12:15 pm – 1:00 pm **LEVERAGING MHSa FUNDING TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS: THE KEY ROLE TO EFFECTIVE SUPPORTS AND SERVICES**

**Lindsay Walter, JD**, Deputy Director of Administration and Operations, Department of Behavioral Wellness, County of Santa Barbara

**Lauren Gavin, LMFT**, Senior Mental Health Program Manager, Behavioral Health Services Department, Supportive Housing Division, County of Santa Clara Health System

MHSa enables communities to expand and strengthen their treatment services for people experiencing homelessness. Discover how MHSa can be utilized and leveraged with other funding sources to provide a variety of community needs such as case management, outreach services, housing, and integrated healthcare options. This session will highlight the development and/or expansion of local implementation of these activities, including barriers and successes experienced by other counties while trying to serve this hard to reach population.

## SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES

**LAUREN GAVIN** is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) who has worked for the Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Services Department for over 14 years and has spent the last 25 years working with disadvantaged and underserved populations. She started her career with the County of Santa Clara as a clinician at the Children's Shelter, then moved to Mental Health Administration where she was responsible for program oversight over many of the contracted community-based services and was involved in implementing many system improvement projects. Currently, Lauren works as a Senior Mental Health Program Manager for the Supportive Housing Division of Behavioral Health Services Department. Lauren oversees the services for clients enrolled in Permanent Supportive Housing programs as well as manages a team of clinicians who provide mental health services to the homeless population. Lauren is a native Californian who lives in San Jose with her husband and three sons. Their oldest son, John, plays professional baseball for the San Francisco Giants organization.

**TRACEY HELTON MITCHELL** has dedicated her life to the care and treatment of people who use drugs, especially those with mental health issues. As a person who spent ten years in and out of jails, homelessness, and hospitals, she is uniquely qualified to speak on issues related to our failed systems. Tracey entered school through an ex-offender's program where she earned a Bachelor of Business Administration and Master's of Public Administration. She was featured in the movie *Black Tar Heroin: The Dark End of the Street*. She has also been featured by CNN, Anderson Cooper, Vice, the Huffington Post, and the New York Times. Her book "The Big Fix: Hope After Heroin" introduced the nation to the principles of Harm Reduction in 2016.

**PRIYA KANNALL** is the M~~H~~S~~A~~ Coordinator and Senior Administrative Analyst for the Nevada County Behavioral Health Department. She has served in this role since May 2018 managing M~~H~~S~~A~~ plan development, the community planning process, contract selection and development, and assisting with grant applications and implementation. Priya also serves as the Deputy Privacy Officer for the Health and Human Services Agency, specializing in privacy and security for the Behavioral Health Department. When needed, she also supports the county as a member of the Public Information Officer team. Prior to her role as M~~H~~S~~A~~ Coordinator, she worked as an Administrative Analyst for the Nevada County Health and Human Services Agency.

**MELISSA LADRECH**, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist is the Mental Health Service Act Coordinator and Workforce Education and Training Coordinator for Sonoma County Behavioral Health Division. She joined Sonoma County in 2015 and has been the WET (Workforce, Education and Training) Manager and Quality Improvement Manager. Melissa coordinated evidence-based and best practices trainings for staff and prepared comprehensive reports for the state External Quality Review audits. She also led efforts to revise the BHD's suicide risk policy, aligning the suicide risk assessment to reflect best practices. Prior to joining the county, Melissa was the Project Coordinator for North Bay Suicide Prevention (NBSP) Project. As NBSP Project Coordinator, she worked closely with six North Bay counties, including Sonoma, to increase suicide prevention efforts by improving suicide prevention practices and implementing a wide range of trainings and community awareness events. Melissa has a master's degree in counseling psychology from Dominican University of California, and a BA in psychology from UCSB.

**GAMALIEL POLANCO** is a licensed clinical social worker with over 20 years of experience in community mental health. He has been the manager of the Wellness & Recovery Center at Tri City Mental Health for 10 years and was instrumental in the planning, development and program implementation of the center. He also is in private practice providing treatment to EAP clients, consultation, and supervision for license eligible social workers. Mr. Polanco received his MSW from the University of Southern California and his BA from Biola University.

**JENNIFER REIMAN** is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with 24 years of experience in providing direct service, supervision, and developing programs to serve children, families, adults, and older adults experiencing mental health crises. She is passionate about providing a continuum of care for individuals who may need a range of supports and services that will allow them to live and thrive independently. Her focus of work has been the nexus between behavior and relational needs together with what it means to provide culturally relevant, individualized care. She lives in Sacramento with her partner and son.

**DAVID M. SCHOELEN, LCSW** has been employed by Riverside University Health System – Behavioral Health for over 30 years. He has served in a continuum of clinical roles from student intern to program administrator, and has worked with children, adults, and older adults. He has been an LCSW since 2000. His practice has included specializing in service to LGBT consumers, engaging people who experience psychosis, and in the application of law related to mental health risk. David has also been a guest lecturer at several local colleges and universities. He was awarded Field Instructor of the Year by the Inland Empire Clinical Education Collaborative in 2009 for his innovative work as a trainer and educator of behavioral health

graduate students. He is currently Riverside County's Mental Health Services Act Administrator.

**LINDSAY WALTER, JD**, has served as Deputy Director for Administration and Operations since April 2016 for Santa Barbara County Department of Behavioral Wellness. Ms. Walter earned a BA degree in Economics from the University of California Los Angeles and became an attorney after receiving a Juris Doctorate degree from Santa Barbara College of Law. She joined Santa Barbara County in 2006 as an Accountant and was assigned MHSB community provider payments as one of her first projects. In her spare time, she enjoys volunteering as a Board Member for the Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center and beach walks with family.

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